

Message Text

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ACTION ITF-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 SR-02 ORM-01 AID-05 VO-03 INSE-00

SCA-01 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 IO-10 /072 W

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O R 190426Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3498

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE

CINCPAC

CINCPACREPPHIL

SECDEF

JCS

GOV GUAM

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 6751

DEPT PASS WHITE HOUSE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, TH

SUBJECT: CAMBODIAN REFUGEES

REF: STATE 115913

1. WE ARE RELUCTANT TO ASK GOP CONCURRENCE IN FURTHER
AUGMENTATION OF CAMBODIAN REFUGEE POPULATION HERE.
AS DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL, WE HAD ASSURED GOP THAT
CAMBODIANS WOULD BE HERE FOR ONLY FEW DAYS PENDING PASSAGE
OF REFUGEE LEGISLATION THROUGH CONGRESS. SIX HUNDRED
CAMBODIANS WHO ARE ALREADY HERE ARE MILITARY CATEGORIES
WHICH GOP FINDS EMBARRASSING TO SAY THE LEAST AND GOP
IS NOT LIKELY TO WELCOME ANOTHER THOUSAND PLUS CAMBODIAN
MILITARY JUST BECAUSE THAILAND AND WE FIND THEM A
PROBLEM.

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2. BEFORE EVEN CONSIDERING THIS REQUEST

WE WOULD LIKE CANDID EXPLANATION WHY WE CANNOT
MOVE CAMBODIAN REFUGEES DIRECTLY TO THE U.S. WE
HAVE ASKED DEPARTMENT, BUT HAVE NEVER HAD SATISFACTORY
ANSWER, WHY REFUGEES CANNOT BE MOVED TO EGLIN WHERE
ACCORDING TO LATEST REPORTS THERE ARE ONLY THREE
THOUSAND REFUGEES. IT IS JUST NOT RPT NOT TRUE THAT
THREE THOUSAND CONSTITUTES "FULL CAPACITY" FOR A
MILITARY RESERVATION THAT IS ROUGHLY THE SIZE OF THE
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND. ALSO WE MUST BE IN A POSITION TO ANSWER
GOP QUESTIONS AS TO HOW LONG CAMBODIAN
REFUGEES AND VIETNAMESE NOW IN AND EN ROUTE TO SUBIC
EXPECTED TO REMAIN IN THE PHILIPPINES.

3. WE HAVE ALREADY HAD TWO TORRENTIAL RAINS IN SUBIC,
WHICH HAVE CAUSED HEAVY FLOODING IN GRANDE ISLAND
CAMP. AS TYPHOON SEASON APPROACHED, FURTHER
RETENTION OF REFUGEES AT SUBIC WILL BECOME INTOLERABLE.
MOREOVER, DAILY TEMPERATURES AVERAGE MORE THAN 95 DEGREES IN
THIS HIGHLY HUMID PERIOD IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO TYPHOONS.
HUMANITARIAN REASONS, AS WELL AS POLITICAL LOGIC,
COMPEL US TO URGE IN STRONGEST POSSIBLE TERMS THAT
EGLIN BE OPENED TO PERMIT ALL THOSE LOCATED AT SUBIC
AS WELL AS SUBSTANTIAL PORTION OF THOSE AT GUAM TO BE
AIRFLIGHTED TO EGLIN SOONEST. IF THERE IS SOME PROBLEM
AT EGLIN WHICH DEPARTMENT HAS CHOSEN NOT TO REVEAL TO
US, THEN WE URGE THAT NEW LOCATION EITHER IN CONUS
OR HAWAII BE ACTIVATED SOONEST.
SULLIVAN

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